

'You've got the DEVIL IN YOU'

No-one could understand my special gift

Lizzy Rose, 46, Melbourne, Vic.

The room was icy-cold and a putrid smell lingered in the air. It was a setting

I knew well. "This is it," I muttered, bracing myself. With that, a young woman lying on the bed in front of me began shaking and snarling like an animal.

She looked up at me, her bloodshot eyes were filled with rage. When she started screaming and foaming at the mouth, my body went into auto-pilot.

"I command you to show yourself," I said firmly. Suddenly, a deep voice began to emanate from her. It belonged to a man speaking in Russian.

I knew exactly what needed to be done. Lighting some incense, I started chanting. The girl began bouncing

from wall to wall, as if possessed by an unseen force. As her body battled against it, bruises in the shape of hand prints began to appear on her forearms.

"I draw you out," I shouted. "Leave this vessel!"

Just then, everything stopped. This might sound like a scene from a horror film but it's far from fictional.

You see, I'm an exorcist. I've been able to hear, feel and speak to spirits for as long as I can remember.

The first time I realised I could see the dead, I was five. I was walking down the street with my mum when we passed a woman and her labrador.

"Can I pat him?" I asked the woman.



Performing an exorcism

She looked at me, completely confused. "Who?" she said.

"Your dog with the red collar." "He's been dead for 16 years," she said, shocked.

From then on I knew I was different.

Other kids my age were scared by my abilities, so I learnt very quickly to keep them to myself. It was the same at home.

Mum was deeply religious and extremely strict. We didn't have a TV and socialising with kids outside of school wasn't allowed.

She couldn't understand my gift, which made life extremely difficult.

I wanted to embrace my gift and use it, but it terrified Mum. "You've got the devil in you," she'd tell me.

It broke my heart. "It's not my fault," I'd sob.

When I was 14, I left home and began working as a professional psychic.

It wasn't long before I was invited by a friend to watch an exorcism, a spiritual practice that evicts

demons from the possessed, and I realised I wanted to use my connection to the spirit world to help others.

It took six years of studying the secret trade,

including spending time with witches and psychic occults, before I qualified as an exorcist.

At the age of 22 I performed my first exorcism on a hostess at a gentleman's club. She'd been possessed after coming into contact with a paying customer.

Thankfully, he was a low level demonic who was relatively easy to extract by reciting spiritual rites.

Over the years, I've performed around 5000 exorcisms.

Just like others before her, this exorcism was relatively straight forward and I'd been able to extract the

demon controlling her body. Now, as she lay on the bed, the colour was slowly coming back to her pale cheeks and she started smiling.

"You're an angel," her husband said.

When people find out what I do for a living, they're always really curious.

"How does someone become possessed?" I'm always asked.

The truth is there's no simple answer.

The most common way is when the living try to communicate with the dead by using seances or ouija boards.

It opens the doorway from the realm of the non-human to the human, and evil spirits can't resist the opportunity

"He's been dead for 16 years"



I love using my abilities to help others

to take hold of a live body again. I've seen a lot of truly terrifying things in my 24 years as a professional exorcist, but I've only been scared a small handful of times.

The most memorable was when I was asked to exorcise an old asylum.

It was packed to the brim with angry spirits, determined to scare me off by slamming doors and messing with the electricity.

One spirit even grabbed my wrist and pulled my hair. "You can't frighten me," I told them over and over.

Most of my clients find me through word of mouth, and they come from all walks of life.

But before I'll perform an exorcism I have to go through a rigorous evaluation.

Only when I'm 100 per cent sure they're possessed by something evil and demonic will I move forward.

I'm lucky that I've been accepted for what I do.

My five sons are all very

accepting of my unusual profession, as it's all they've ever known. But my youngest sometimes struggles.

"When you speak those old languages, it spins me out, Mum," he says.

So I do my best to keep my work separate from our home life, which can be tough, as what I do is so rare. I've become known as Australia's celebrity psychic.

Possession is everywhere and it needs to be taken very seriously.

When I see people return to leading happy, fulfilling lives after being traumatised, I feel very privileged knowing that I've helped them.

WE PAY MORE!
up to \$2000
for YOUR story
See coupon at right.

SHARE YOUR STORY



YOU COULD BE UP TO \$2000 RICHER!

We've all had amazing life experiences - get in touch and tell us about yours

Take 5 is looking for stories about:

- Shocking true crime
- Funny or quirky tales
- Triumph over tragedy
- Moving love stories
- Love rats and betrayal
- Acts of heroism
- Scams and con artists
- Wishing well requests
- Tributes to loved ones

My story starts like this:

Then this happened:

How things are now:

You can contribute to ALL our regular sections using this coupon, too.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

There are several ways to send us your story



WRITE TO:
Features Dept,
Take 5, GPO Box
3525, Sydney,
NSW 2001



EMAIL US:
Take5@
bauer-media.
com.au



PHONE:
Our news
hotline on
(02) 9282
8958



MESSAGE US:
Via facebook www.
facebook.com/
take5magazine

If you want your photos back, clearly label the back of every one with your name and address. Please also enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope big enough for us to return them in. No responsibility is accepted for lost or misdirected mail. All stories should be original and previously unpublished.



I did six years of training

AS TOLD TO PAUL EWART. PICTURES: POLLYANNAR THE BIG PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHER; THINKSTOCK